

Paragraph Rating System

Use this chart to decide each rating. Then fill out the form on the next page.

	1	2	3	4
Capitalization and Punctuation	3 or more mistakes	2 mistakes	1 mistake	No mistakes
Topic Sentence	Reader cannot tell what the paragraph is going to be about. May start with a pronoun.	Gives some idea of what the paragraph will be about.	Reader can tell what the paragraph is about, but the sentence could be stated more clearly.	Well written. Reader can tell exactly what the rest of the paragraph is about.
Supporting Details	Details do not support the topic sentence.	Details support the topic sentence. Sentence beginnings don't vary. No descriptive words.	Details support the topic sentence. Most sentence beginnings vary. Some descriptive words.	All details support the topic sentence. Sentences vary, making the paragraph interesting to read. Good use of descriptive words.
Conclusion	Missing or poorly written.	Makes a summary, but it is not clear.	Clear summary, but the wording could be better.	Clear summary of the paragraph. Well written.
Sentence Structure	Incomplete sentences.	Complete sentences. Little variation.	Complete sentences. Fair use of descriptive words and variation.	Complete sentences. Excellent use of descriptive words and variation. Ideas expressed in a creative way.
Content	Short. Few facts. Reader does not get a clear picture.	Some facts. Reader gets a vague picture of the content.	Good content. Includes most facts from the fact sheet.	Excellent content. Includes all important facts from the fact sheet. Reader gets a clear picture.
Accuracy and Word Choice	Facts are inaccurate or have no source. Uses general terms such as "the Indians."	Some facts have no source. Mixes the nation's name with general terms.	Facts are accurate. Uses the nation's name most of the time. Mostly correct past and present tense.	All facts are accurate and from reliable sources. Uses the nation's name. Past tense for history, present tense for the nation today.

Total possible: 28 points (7 rows × 4).

Paragraph Rating Form

Your name _____

Writer's name _____

Title of the paragraph you are rating _____

Directions: Check one box in each row that best describes the paragraph.

	1	2	3	4
Capitalization and Punctuation	☐	☐	☐	☐
Topic Sentence	☐	☐	☐	☐
Supporting Details	☐	☐	☐	☐
Conclusion	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sentence Structure	☐	☐	☐	☐
Content	☐	☐	☐	☐
Accuracy and Word Choice	☐	☐	☐	☐

Write brief statements telling the writer two strong points about the paragraph and one area to improve.

Strong point 1	
Strong point 2	
One area to improve	